

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims and new claims are as follows:

AB
12/02/03
Claims 1-24 (Canceled)

25 24. ✓ (New) An implant comprising:
a body with ²³first and second ends and a plurality of through-holes
^{see Fig. 11B}extending between the ends, a cortical end cap ⁷⁰disposed on each end comprising receiving
regions therein, and a plurality of cortical struts;
wherein each cortical strut is disposed in one of the through holes and
mates in one of the receiving regions of each cap.

26 25. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the receiving regions
comprise a through hole.

27 26. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 25, wherein the cortical strut received in
the through hole of the cap is press-fit therein.

28 27. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the receiving regions
comprise a recess.

29 28. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the implant comprises
demineralized bone.

30 29. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the implant comprises
partially demineralized bone.

31 30. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the body comprises
osteoconductive material. *cancellous bone.*

32 31. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the body comprises
cancellous bone.

33 32. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the body comprises cancellous bone and the receiving regions comprise a recess.

34 33. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the struts are disposed generally parallel to each other.

35 34. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the struts are cylindrical.

36 35. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the struts have a triangular cross-section. *see Fig. 24*

a 37 36. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the struts have a rectangular cross-section. *see Fig. 25*

38 37. ✓ (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the body is cylindrical. *see Fig. 10*

39 38. (New) The implant of claim 24, wherein the end caps are configured and dimensioned to distribute loading on the implant.
The whole struct. is capable of distributing forces.